



Washington State Emergency Management Council Committee on Terrorism

Emergency Management Division
Washington Military Department

Background

In January 2000, the Washington State Emergency Management Council (EMC), at the direction of Gov. Gary Locke, formed the Committee on Terrorism (COT). The COT structure consists of 20 Core Members, 8 Advisory Members, 5 Subcommittees, 3 Working Groups, and an Executive Steering Group.

Purpose

The COT develops and recommends to the EMC statewide strategies that address threats and acts of terrorism through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery activities.

Objectives

To serve as the EMC's working group for assignments related to terrorism:

1. Develop a statewide strategy for preventing, planning and responding to threats and acts of terrorism;
2. Ensure an effective and coordinated mechanism exists to continuously assess and disseminate risk and threat information;
3. Identify resource opportunities and recommend appropriate lead agencies or other lead entities for specific grants;
4. Identify, develop and recommend standards for equipment and training for statewide interoperability;
5. Provide a forum for general coordination and the exchange of information among federal, state and local entities;
6. Recommend policy changes to improve and enhance statewide preparedness.

Successes

Since its formation in early 2000, the COT has provided oversight for the following:

1. A statewide assessment of local first responder needs and capabilities for the receipt and distribution of \$3 million in Department of Justice equipment grants for police and fire agencies;
2. Amendment of the Public Disclosure Act (RCW 42.17.310) to prevent the release of certain public records containing specific and unique information, such as specific and unique terrorism response plans and vulnerability assessments, intended to prevent or mitigate acts of terrorism;
3. Coordination of more than 20 local and regional first responder training exercises and 50 anti-terrorism training classes; and
4. Completion of a statewide threat assessment and analysis and the terrorism annex to the state's Comprehensive Emergency Management
•Plan.

**Core
Membership**

Department of Ecology
Department of Agriculture
Department of Health
Department of Information Services
Department of Transportation
Local Emergency Management
Local Emergency Medical Service
Local Fire Departments
Local Law Enforcement (Chiefs)
Local Law Enforcement (Sheriffs)
Local Public Health

Department of Social and Health Services
National Guard
Office of Attorney General
Office of Financial Management
Washington State Patrol
Emergency Management Division
Fire Protection Bureau
Department of Labor and Industries
Washington Association of Hospitals

**Advisory
Membership**

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Public Health Services
Department of Personnel

Coast Guard
Department of Defense
Environmental Protection Agency
Employment Security Department

Contacts

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